



# IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

## **MINUTES OF STATE WATER PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**

**C. L. "Butch" Otter**  
Governor

**Idaho Department of Water Resources**  
Idaho Water Center, Boise, Idaho  
January 7, 2008

**Jerry R. Rigby**  
Chairman  
Rexburg  
At Large

**Terry T. Uhling**  
Vice Chairman  
Boise  
District 2

**Bob Graham**  
Secretary  
Bonners Ferry  
At Large

**Charles "Chuck"  
Cuddy**  
Orofino  
District 1

**Leonard Beck**  
Burley  
District 3

**L. Claude Storer**  
Idaho Falls  
District 4

**Gary M.  
Chamberlain**  
Challis  
At Large

**Lawrence "Vic"  
Armacost**  
New Meadows  
At Large

The Chairman of the committee, Gary Chamberlain, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Vic Armacost and Leonard Beck were also present.

Staff members present were Hal Anderson, Administrator of Planning and Technical Division; Brian Patton, Bureau Chief of Planning; Helen Harrington, Planning Section Manager; Sandra Thiel, Planner, Neeley Miller, Planner and Patsy McGourty, Recording Secretary.

Guests in attendance were:

David Blew, Idaho Power Co.	Lynn Tominaga, IGWA
Kevin Lewis, Idaho Rivers United	Shelley Davis, Barker Rosholt & Simpson

Chairman Chamberlain turned the meeting over to Helen Harrington.

### **Agenda Item No. 1, Review New Comments Received**

Ms. Harrington passed out comments received for the committee to review.

### **Agenda Item No. 2, Review of Response Letter**

Ms. Harrington passed out a proposed response letter that would be mailed to any party sending in comments. Suggestions were made to revise the letter and a stamp will be ordered with the committee chairman's signature.

### **Agenda Item No. 3, Review of Policies (continued)**

Ms. Harrington first reported to the committee on a question from the last meeting about lake management. The lake management issue was included in two old water plans, but in discussions with the Department of Environmental Quality Ms. Harrington learned that most lakes are managed locally. She told the committee that it could be included or left out as they decided. The group then discussed the different aspects of this issue. Mr. Anderson suggested that staff request specific input on lake management from existing lake commissioners, the Departments of Parks and Recreation and Fish and Game and any local entities engaged in their management. The committee will consider this input at the next meeting.

In section 3A – Potential Reservoir Sites the committee reviewed the first draft of a spreadsheet listing possible reservoir sites and projected costs of dam construction for the whole state. There was general discussion about the sites listed. Some corrections were noted. Ms. Harrington noted that the current policy states that sites need to be protected. A new policy was written adding water supply enhancement and separating surface storage from aquifer storage which is an entirely different issue.

Mr. Anderson noted that the new format for the State Water Plan will list recommendations, implementation and milestones that will further delineate the spreadsheet. Mr. Beck asked that Minidoka Reservoir be added to the list. There was further discussion about environmental concerns and priorities.

In section 3B – State Protected River System the committee rewrote the policy.

In section 3C – Riparian Habitat and Wetlands the committee rewrote the policy.

In section 3D – Stream Channel Rehabilitation the committee discussed the various aspects of this historical policy. Although not much has been done in this area, the Board could have a water project that called for stream channel rehabilitation with funding from the Legislature.

In section 3E – Tailings Pond Regulations the committee deleted this policy.

In section 3F – Radioactive Waste Monitoring the committee requested staff to ask IDEQ/INEL Oversight Office for input and will consider this policy at the next meeting.

In section 3G – Safety Measures Program the committee discussed the policy noting that the Board has made loans to canal companies for pipeline to replace canals and safety is often listed as a reason.

In section 3H – Flood Prone Areas the committee invited Mary McGown, the State Flood Plain Coordinator, to speak about current issues. Ms. McGown urged the committee to include implementing the National Flood Insurance Program minimum regulations and standards in the Board policy. She noted that this would give strength to local entities for planning and zoning issues. She discussed federal mapping programs that are aiding Idaho counties in getting flood plain maps updated for their areas. This is an urgent need especially for rural counties that can't afford mapping

resources. Ms. McGown said she would let the committee know what other states are doing about flood plain management.

In section 3I – Flood Control Levee Regulations the committee noted that most levees have local sponsors but are largely unregulated by the state with inspection programs.

### **Agenda Item No. 3, Assignments/Actions**

Staff will update the draft reservoir cost analysis spreadsheet and send letters to parties who have commented.

### **Agenda Item No. 4, Future Meeting Schedule and Logistics**

Future meetings were set for January 25 from 1-5:00 p.m., February 5, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and February 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Boise.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January 2008.

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Patsy McGourty  
Administrative Assistant II